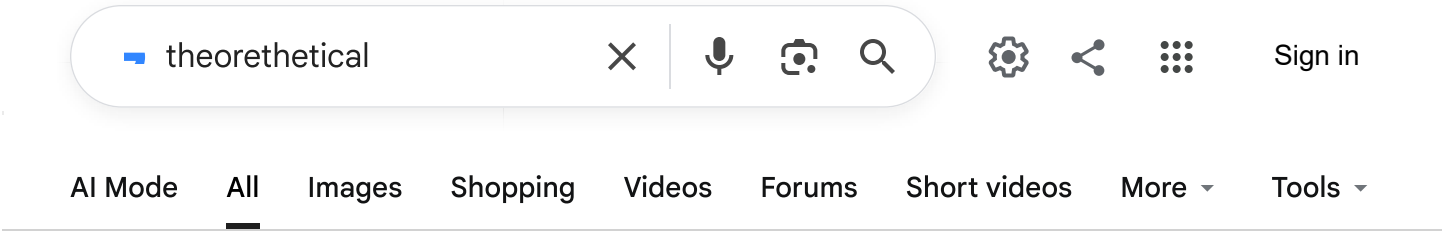
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AI Overview

theoretical

/ˌTHēəˈredək(ə)l/

Theoretical means based on ideas, concepts, and rules of a subject rather than on practical use, real-world tests, or physical proof. It describes something that is thought to be true or possible on paper, but has not been shown or done in real life. Cambridge Dictionary +2

Key Meanings and Uses

- **Based on principles:** Built on a structured system of ideas (like theoretical physics) rather than lab experiments.
- **Not practical:** Existing only in thought, meaning it cannot or has not yet been applied to everyday use.
- **Hypothetical:** Supposed to be true or possible, but unproven or unlikely to cause real issues in practice. Cambridge Dictionary +4

Theoretical vs. Practical

- **Theoretical:** Focused on *why* things happen through math, logic, and abstract reasoning.
- **Practical/Experimental:** Focused on *testing* and seeing results through physical touch, tools, and real-world observation. Oxford Learner's Dicti... +2

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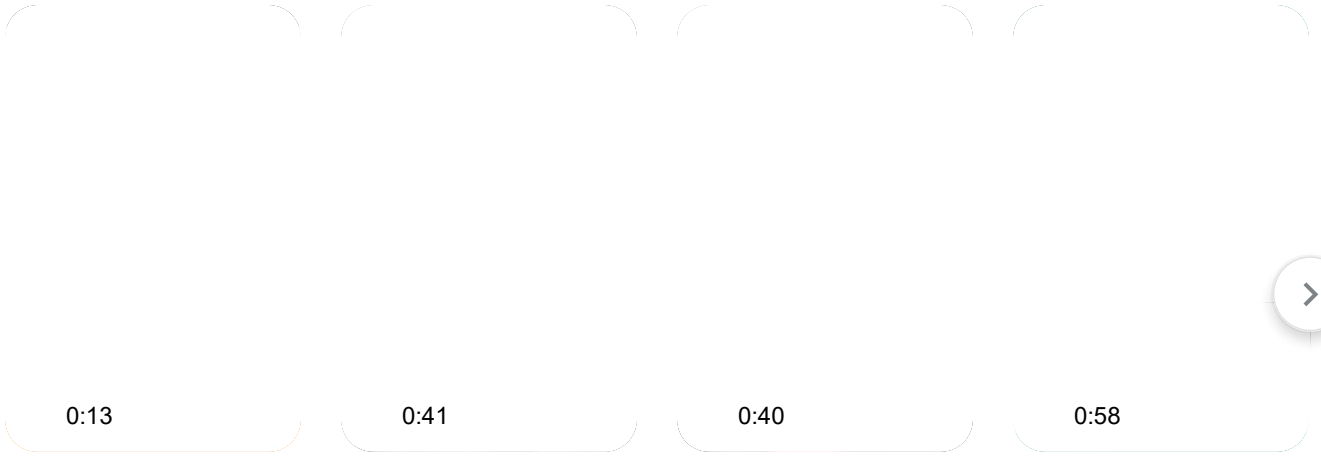

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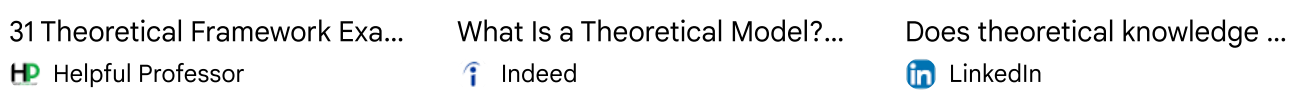

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